SPECIFICATION:

Please make the following corrections in Paragraph 11:

[0011] A guest wishing to use, or discontinue to use, their in-room safe simply dials a predetermined telephone number in the hotel's telephone directory through the PBX to connect with the RCS. The RCS interprets the call as a command to enable or disable the guest's in-room safe. The PBX also provides the CC the room number of the guest so that the CC will know which in-room safe to enable or ~~de-enable~~ disable. Upon receiving a command to enable or disable the safe, the CC also informs the PMS of this for billing purposes. Alternatively, the telephone command is forwarded from the PBX to the PMS which, in ~~turns~~ turn, informs the CC to enable or disable the safe. How this is performed depends on the capabilities and features of the PBX and PMS installed at the hotel. The present invention is adaptable to operate with the various types of PBX and PMS systems.

Please make the following corrections in Paragraph 36:

[0036] FIG. 3 illustrates the functional steps of front desk activation process 400 followed by RCS 100. The guest is queried at step 404 if they want to use the safe in their room. Their response is entered into PMS 112. Step 408 determines which steps are to be followed if the guest's response is "yes" or "no". If the ~~guests~~ guest wants the safe disabled, PMS 112 instructs RCS 100 at step 412 to assemble a disable command. If the guest wants the safe enabled, PMS 112 instructs RCS 100 at step 416 to assemble an enable command. Both steps 412 and 416 lead to step 420 where PMS 112 informs RCS 100 of the room number of the safe to be enabled or disabled so that ~~a~~ an instruction for safe 132 can be assembled. At step 424, RCS 100 puts the instruction into a queue of instructions that is transmitted as an RS-232 serial data signal 101 to TCM 116 over cable 114 to be transmitted by RT 120. RCS 100 follows steps 428, 432 and 436 to transmit the queue of instructions five times to the safes.

Please make the following corrections in Paragraph 37:

[0037] The purpose of having RCS 100 ~~for repeating~~ repeat the transmission is to ensure that each safe 132 has received at least one transmission of the instructions. Radio frequency noise and radio signals from other sources may interfere with the transmission from RT 120, therefore, the transmission of the instructions is repeated to ensure that each safe 132 receives the transmission. The number of times the instructions are transmitted does not necessarily have to be five so long as the number chosen provides sufficient probability that each safe 132 will receive at least one transmission of the instructions. Once the instructions have been transmitted, RCS 100 stores the activation status of safe 132 in the RCS database at step 440. RCS 100 then informs RMS 112 of the status of safe 132 for the guest's billing records at step 444 whereupon the process ends at step 448.

Please make the following correction in Paragraph 38:

[0038] The other way a guest may enable or disable safe 132 is by using the telephone in their room. FIG. 4 illustrates the functional steps of safe activation process 500 followed by RCS 100 when a ~~guests~~ guest uses their in-room telephone to enable or disable safe 132. The entering of the command to RCS 100 using the telephone system in hotel 128 can be accomplished in a number of ways depending on the capabilities and features of PBX 108 and PMS 112. One method is to dial a single predetermined telephone number programmed in PBX 108 from the telephone in the room housing safe 132 whereupon a voice announcement prompt programmed in PBX 108 instructs the guest to enter one digit to enable safe 132 or to enter another digit to disable safe 132. The digit entered by the guest is interpreted by CC 104 as an enable or disable command.

Please make the following correction in Paragraph 43:

[0043] There are occasions where a guest will close and lock their safe before checking out of their room and not inform anyone what passcode they entered into the safe to open or close the safe. The next guest who attempts to open the safe will not be able to because they do not have the passcode set by the previous guest. To remedy this situation, RCS 100 will follow the steps set out in safe opening process 700 which is illustrated in FIG. 5. When a new guest checks into

the hotel at step 708, RCS 100 verifies that the previous guest for the room has checked out at step 712. If the previous guest has not yet checked out, the process terminates at step 728. If the previous guest has checked out, RCS 100 queries at step 716 if four hours has elapsed since the previous guest has checked out. This time period is adjustable to match the time period between the checkout time and check-in time of hotel 128. If four hours have not elapsed, the process terminates at step 728. If four hours have elapsed, RCS 100 verifies at step 720 that the new guest has checked in. If "no", the process terminates at step 728. If the new guest has checked in, RCS 100 opens safe 132 in the guest's room at step 732 by submitting an instruction to open safe 132 to the queue of instructions that are transmitted to safes 132 at step 424 of activation process 400.

Please make the following correction in Paragraph 63:

[0063] The present invention as disclosed uses UHF radio components due to their low cost and good performance. It is contemplated that other wireless transmission technologies could be adapted to provide similar performance as the UHF radio technology used in the disclosed invention. It is anticipated that magnetic or induction field technology could be used as a wireless communications link between RCS 100 and safes 132. In this adaptation of the present invention, the receiver in the safe could be replaced with a coil, a filtered amplifier, a few passive components and a small power supply. The frequency of the inductive field would <u>be</u> in the range of 10 Hertz to 1 Megahertz and would be modulated with on-off keying or other means of modulation to carry data. The desired data rate of communication would determine the frequency of the carrier field. The transmitter would consist of a large coil designed to emit an oscillating magnetic field throughout the hotel. It is also contemplated that other wireless transmission means such as optical or acoustic carrier signals could be used to control safes in hotels as well.